



NEWS FROM NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION • US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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National Weather Service Applauds Deltona, Florida for StormReady® Renewal

National Weather Service officials and the emergency management community have approved StormReady® renewal efforts by the city of Deltona, Fla. When Deltona was originally recognized as a StormReady® community in 2007, city officials knew they would have to successfully complete a renewal process in three years.

"I would like to commend the officials in Deltona for their proactive approach to enhancing local hazardous weather operations and public awareness," said Bart Hagemeyer, meteorologist-in-charge of the National Weather Service forecast office in Melbourne. "Their dedication and hard work helps to assure a continuously improving level of safety for the city's 85,000 residents and seasonal visitors."

The nationwide community preparedness program uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle local severe weather and flooding threats. The program is voluntary and provides communities with clear-cut advice from the local National Weather Service forecast office and state and local emergency managers. The program began in 1999 with seven communities in the Tulsa, Okla. area. Today, there are more than 1,600 StormReady® communities.

To be recognized as StormReady®, a community must establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; have more than one way to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings and to alert the public; create a system that monitors local weather conditions; promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars; and, develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

The StormReady® program is part of the National Weather Service's working partnership with the International Association of Emergency Managers and the National Emergency Management Association.

NOAA understands and predicts changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and conserves and manages our coastal and marine resources. Visit <http://www.noaa.gov>.

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On the internet:

National Weather Service: <http://www.weather.gov>

StormReady® program: <http://www.stormready.noaa.gov>

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